Add new claim 51 as follows:

C5

~~51.~~ In combination as claimed in claim ~~34~~ wherein said one end user peripheral device is chosen from the group comprising printers, solid state memory, communication ports, networks, scanners, other computer instrumentation, monitors, plotters, spatial digitizers, control instruments, pointing device such as a mouse, track ball, joy stick, or knob box, and external audio devices including speech recognition, signal analysis, speech synthesis, sound generator, and digital audio recording/playback.

IN THE DRAWINGS

Amend Figure 6 as circled in the present drawing. The circle designation has been used to assist the Examiner, as the response is being transmitted by facsimile to the Patent Office.

REMARKS

The title of the invention has been amended to more clearly indicate the invention to which the claims are directed.

With respect to Item 4 of the Official Action, Figure 6 has been amended to show a memory associated with the signal conditioning and control circuitry 24 and the description has been amended on page 4 at the end of the first complete paragraph by inserting the description which is supported by original claim 11 and by the disclosure and description of the boot strap program found on page 6, last complete paragraph, in combination with the disclosure on page 4, the first paragraph, in particular the discussion of the signal conditioning and control circuitry 24. With this amendment, there is specific support for the amended claims 40 and 50 which refer to "memory means producing". Claim 50 is supported by the disclosure, in that an instructing signal has always been produced, as specifically described with respect to Figure 6 and the passages referred to above.

The amendments with respect to the disclosure have not added any new subject matter, as it was specifically supported by original claim 10 and the other portions of the disclosure referred to above.

Item 5 of the Official Action refers to claims 40 and 50 as not being supported by the disclosure. In light of the amendments to the disclosure, it is believed this rejection has been overcome.

In Item 6 of the Action, the Examiner refers to claims 34-50 as being rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Claim 34 has been amended and it is believed that each of the objections with respect to claim 34 have now been overcome.

In claim 39, the claim has been rewritten to specifically state that the rotatable memory storage means is in data transfer relationship with the read/write head and the coupler read/write head cooperates with the memory storage means to effect data transfer between the read/write head of the coupler and the read/write head of the diskette drive via the rotatable memory storage means. It is clear from claim 39 that the two heads cooperate with the rotatable memory storage means, such that the memory storage means merely acts as an intermediary. The language is clear and definite and is clearly supported by the disclosure. The Examiner further makes a query as to why not directly transfer the data, and indeed, this can also be accomplished. The present claim is directed to one of the embodiments described in the invention. The use of a rotatable memory storage means is a simple method of overcoming the need for synchronization pulses as described in the prior art, as the diskette to the diskette drive appears to be of a normal configuration.

The indefinite rejections identified in C-F need not be addressed, as these claims have been cancelled from the case.

Claim 47 has been amended to overcome the first objection regarding the communication port. Lines 3-6 have also been rewritten to overcome the various objections. In particular, the claim is now directed to a method of coupling a

computer with one separate computer peripheral of a host of separate computer peripherals via the read/write head of a diskette drive of the computer. Regarding the rejection of lines 7-11, the limitation described here requires insertion of the coupler having a stationary data transfer element into the diskette drive and forming a data transfer coupling between the stationary transfer and the read/write head of the diskette drive. With respect to the objection of lines 7 and 12, the present method is clearly stated and the various steps for carrying out the method are outlined. This method can easily be implemented manually or may be automated. It is believed these lines are clear and definite and applicant is unaware of any reason why he must specifically state who or what is carrying out the method. The invention is directed to the method and the various steps of the method which are clearly stated in the claim. The Examiner is specifically requested to identify under what section his requirement identified in subparagraph 5 and the objection of lines 7 and 12 is supported.

Claim 49 is definite and distinct. The method and the step of inserting the coupler causes a particular sequence of steps to be carried out. These are stated in claim 49 and the specific relationship is the specific transfer of data specified in the claim where the memory storage medium acts as an intermediary. Applicant is merely claiming the preferred embodiments specifically described in the invention and it should be noted that these limitations include the limitations of claim 47.

It is submitted that the claims as rewritten clearly support the particular relationship and allow the various necessary operational connections between the components. The Examiner appears to be of the position that the limitations are of a broad nature, however, there is nothing in the Patent Act which states an applicant may not claim his invention broadly. There is a particular operational relationship between the terms and it is believed that anyone skilled in the art can easily understand the claims and would know exactly how the combination operates. The present invention is directed to the particular combination of elements and it is this combination that is believed to be unique. Applicant does not have to limit his invention any further than as specifically found in these claims to comply with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 112.

Claim 48 requires an aligning function to be carried out during the insertion of the coupler. This aligning function is clearly described in the application and is a further limitation of the method step defined by inserting of the coupler. It is therefore submitted that claim 48 does comply with 35 U.S.C. 112, 4th paragraph, and further limits the method steps of claim 47.

Claims 34 and 47-50 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Berwick et al. Applicant respectfully submits that this in error and Berwick et al does not disclose a combination even remotely similar to that as now specified in the present claims.

The Examiner argues that Berwick has all of the components. Applicant specifically draws to the Examiner's attention that claim 34 is directed to a particular combination requiring a computer which cannot be at all found in the Berwick et al reference. Furthermore, this computer must have a particular diskette drive. Again, there is no computer and diskette drive in the Berwick et al reference. There is no computer peripheral device having an input/output port as now found in the claim. Furthermore, there is no end user computer peripheral device at all in the Berwick reference. The Examiner makes reference to component 48 of Berwick et al, however, this is clearly not an end user computer peripheral device, as it is specifically described as a signal and detecting arrangement. Signal and detecting arrangements are not end user computer peripheral devices as specifically identified and fully described in the present application. It is in direct contradiction to the teaching of the reference to assert that this signal detecting arrangement is anything but a signal detecting arrangement for use as a test instrument for the diskette drive. Applicant submits that the Berwick et al reference is not directed to a combination as specifically outlined in the present application and does not even remotely suggest such a combination which allows a computer having a diskette drive to be connected to an end user computer peripheral device by means of a coupler engaged in the diskette drive whereby the diskette drive is rendered an input/output port. There is absolutely no support for this position and it is respectfully submitted that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) is unsupported and should be withdrawn.

Claim 47 requires a method for forming a data transfer coupling between a read/write head of a diskette drive of a computer and input/output port of one of a host of separate computer peripherals. It is clear from the Berwick et al reference that he does not form a data transfer coupling between a computer having a diskette drive having a read/write head and one separate computer peripheral of a host of separate computer peripherals where each separate computer peripheral is traditionally connectable to a computer by means of an input/output port of the computer. The reference merely discloses a test instrument for a diskette drive and does not disclose any other arrangement or application for this test instrument. This is a dedicated test instrument having its own dedicated signal detecting arrangement. There is no separate end user computer peripheral device at all in the reference and there is certainly not one having an input/output port normally used for connecting with an input/output port of a computer. The Berwick et al reference is clearly specific to its own test application of diskette drives and is not at all directed to a particular method of forming a data transfer coupling between a computer and an end user computer peripheral device without using a conventional input/output port of the computer. It is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claims 47-50 is not supported when the reference is considered in its entirety. The Examiner has not given any rationale why dependent claims 48-50 are rendered anticipated by the reference or obvious in light of the reference. Applicant can find no support in the reference for this rejection of the claims and submits that the rejection should be withdrawn.

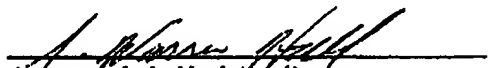
Claims 35-41 have been rejected as being obvious over Berwick et al. Applicant specifically requests the Examiner to identify what portions of the Berwick et al reference suggest this particular application which allows a computer to form a direct connection with an end user computer peripheral device. Applicant can find no support for this position and it is submitted that the reference is clearly a very specialized apparatus having its own particular unique application which is remote the present case. The claims of the application have been limited to the particular application and a particular combination of elements and neither this application nor this combination of elements are even remotely suggested in the Berwick et al reference. The Berwick et al reference does not operate in the manner of the present invention. The Berwick et al reference requires the signal source detector 48 to

produce signals which are directly connected to conductors 38, 40, 50, 52, 54 and 56 which are connected to a data transfer element which the Examiner has identified as 60. Apparently, signals corresponding to a 1F/2F signal are produced by the signal source detector. There is no teaching in the reference of what happens to these signals once they are induced into the read/write head of the diskette drive. There is no disclosure of any test arrangement or feedback arrangement and, in any event, all signals are being produced by the signal source detector and in some unexplained manner, this allows a person skilled in the art to adjust the read/write head. There is a suggestion that a structure is possible for both read and write elements to be checked, however, again, there is no specific disclosure of how this is accomplished. There is absolutely no suggestion in the reference of data being transferred from the diskette drive to the coupler and it is clear that the reference operates only on the basis of a signal source detector being used to produce a signal which has to be induced into the read/write head of the diskette drive. There is absolutely no disclosure of a feedback arrangement for signals being produced by the diskette drive and, in fact, how can the diskette drive produce any signals as, in fact, it is merely a transfer element and the only transfer source would be from the diskette drive which the coupler has already activated? Thus, it is clear that the reference is limited to the particular magnetic medium test fixture apparatus and is indeed remote the present application which is an end user application to allow coupling of components which otherwise may not be compatible.

The advantages of the applicant's invention are fully described in the present application. The only support for seriously altering the Berwick et al reference to eliminate the signal source detector 48 and put in its place an interface connectable to an end user computer peripheral device as well as inserting the coupler in a computer having a diskette drive whereby the diskette drive is rendered an input/output port is found in the present application. The prior art is fully deficient with respect to this particular teaching and the advantages possible by using this approach. It is submitted that it is only based on hindsight and with full knowledge of the present application that one would ever seriously modify the Berwick et al reference in a manner to accomplish the present application. The use of

such hindsight is not the proper test of obviousness and it is respectfully requested that the rejections based on Section 35 U.S.C. 102 and 103 be withdrawn.

Respectfully submitted,



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WH/lf
Encl. - Request for Extension of Time